

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-10 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

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R 091750Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4139

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1814

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, EB, US, UK, FR, UR,

SUBJECT: PROTEST OF MILITARY PARADE IN EAST BERLIN

OCTOBER 7

REF: STATE 218685, BONN 15599

1. BRITISH POLAD OCTOBER 8 DELIVERED AGREED ALLIED STATEMENT TO SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR RODIN AT SOVIET EMBASSY EAST BERLIN PROTESTING OCTOBER 7 GDR MILITARY PARADE. RODIN REPLIED THAT HE REJECTED PROTEST AS GROUNDLESS INASMUCH AS EAST GERMANS HAD PARADED IN THEIR CAPITAL, "AN INTEGRATED PART OF GDR" AND GDR POSITION, ESTABLISHED IN UN, WAS RECOGNIZED "AS A WHOLE" BY ALL COUNTRIES OF WORLD.

2. BRITISH POLAD SAID DEMILITARIZATION OF BERLIN WAS ESTABLISHED IN POST-WAR AGREEMENTS UNAFFECTED BY QA AND PARADE HAD BEEN PROTESTED DIRECTLY TO SOVIETS BECAUSE OF ITS EXCEPTIONAL PROPORTIONS. ASKED WHETHER SOVIETS REGARDED WARTIME AND POST-WAR QUADRIpartite
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AGREEMENTS AND DECISIONS AS VALID, RODIN SAID THIS WAS

SO. BRITISH POLAD WENT ON TO STATE THAT ALLIES WOULD NOT ACCEPT EASTERN SECTOR OF BERLIN AS CAPITAL OF GDR--AS OPPOSED TO ITS SEAT OF GOVERNMENT--OR AS BEING INTEGRATED WITH GDR. RODIN SAID STATEMENT TO EFFECT EASTERN SECTORS REMAIN SUBJECT TO QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENTS AND DECISIONS RELATED TO GREATER BERLIN WAS UNACCEPTABLE; HE MAINTAINED THAT QA REFERRED TO WESTERN SECTORS ALONE. BRITISH POLAD REPLIED THIS WAS MOST SERIOUS BECAUSE ALLIES CONSIDERED THAT QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENTS, DECISIONS AND PRACTICES, AS WELL AS QA, ALL REFERRED TO GREATER BERLIN. HE NOTED THAT SINCE SOVIETS HAD NO STANDING IN WESTERN SECTORS THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO NEED TO NEGOTIATE QA ABOUT THESE ALONE.

3. SOVIETS ARGUED EAST GERMAN MILITARY PARADES WERE ONE OF PRACTICES CONDONED BY QA, BUT BRITISH POLAD POINTED OUT THEY HAD NEVER BEEN ACCEPTED BY ALLIES WHO HAD ALWAYS PROTESTED THEM. WHEN PROTOCOL OFFICER ROMANOVSKIY, WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT, SAID IT WAS TIME ALLIES ACCEPTED EAST BERLIN AS GDR CAPITAL, HE WAS REMINDED SOVIETS WERE KEEN ON MAINTENANCE OF STATUS QUO ON BERLIN AS WERE ALLIES.

4. AFTER REHEARSING ABOVE ARGUMENTS SEVERAL TIMES, BRITISH POLAD AND RODIN AGREED FURTHER DISCUSSION OF RESPECTIVE LEGAL POSITIONS, WHICH HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY THRASHED OUT DURING QA NEGOTIATIONS, MIGHT BE DANGEROUS. RODIN COMMENTED THAT IF HIS EMBASSY REPORTED ALLIED DEMARCHE TO MOSCOW IT COULD WELL AGGRAVATE ALLIED-SOVIET RELATIONS, AND HE INDICATED HE THOUGHT IT WISER TO MAKE NO REPORT. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS DONE SO).

5. TO ROUND OUT PROTEST PICTURE, COMMANDERS OF ONE FRENCH AND THREE US DUTY TRAINS MADE USUAL ROUTINE ORAL PROTESTS TO SOVIET CHECKPOINT DUTY OFFICER WHEN GDR FLAGS WERE FLOWN ON LOCOMOTIVES OCTOBER 5 AND 4; AND BRITISH CHECKPOINT COMMANDER AT AUTOBAHN CHECKPOINT ALPHA AND SUS CHECKPOINT COMMANDER AT BRAVO, CONFIDENTIAL

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EACH SPEAKING FOR THE ALLIES, REGISTERED ORAL PROTESTS AGAINST FLYING OF GDR FLAGS AT RESPECTIVE SOVIET CHECKPOINTS. KLEIN

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